

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2661

S E C R E T LAGOS 0067

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS AMEMBASSY DAKAR NIACT IMMEDIATE FOR
SCHAUFFLE AND PASS IMMEDIATE FOR AMEMBASSY ACCRA DAR ES SALAAM
KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S LETTER ON ANGOLA

REF: STATE 001377

1. WITH HEAD OF STATE MURTALA MUHAMMED "UNAVAILABLE" AND
COMMISSIONER GARBA OUT OF THE COUNTRY UNTIL TOMORROW, I
DELIVERED PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO MEA PERMSEC SANUSI.
DETAILS OF OUR CONVERSATION BY SEPTTEL.

2. SANUSI SAID HE APPRECIATED LETTER'S REFERENCE TO SOUTH
AFRICAN PROBLEM, WHICH HE FOUND MORE SPECIFIC
AND HELPUFL THAN ANYTHING WE HAD SAID IN PAST ON THIS SUBJECT.
WEREAS NIGERIA DISAPPOINTED THAT US UNABLE RESPOND MORE EFFECTIVELY
TO DATE, NIGERIA CONTINUED TO VIEW OUR INFLUENCE ON SOUTH
AFRICA AS POTENTIALLY DETERMINATIVE
FACTOR IN PRODUCING RESOLUTION OF ANGOLAN CRISIS.

3. SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT COULD NOT BE VIEWED IN THE
SAME LIGHT AS THAT OF THE SOVIETS, CUBANS OR ZAIROIS, SINCE THESE
LATTER HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO COME IN WHEREAS UNITA WAS NOW
DENYING THEY HAD ASKED FOR SOUTH AFRICAN HELP. THIS ISSUE
WILL FEATURE PROMINENTLY IN OAU DISCUSSIONS AND, ACCORDING

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TO SANUSI, WEAKENS THE THESIS PUT FORWARD IN PRESIDENT FORD'S

LETTER.

4. IN CONTINUING ABSENCE OF EVIDENCE OF ANY ANGOLAN INVITATION TO
SOUTH AFRICA TO COME IN, WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS ACTUAL PROOF OF
SOUTH AFRICAN WILLINGNESS TO GET
OUT PRIOR TO OAU MEETING.
EASUM

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